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Docket No. 21408 US C038435/0185946

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE ACTING AS
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) UNDER THE PATENT
COOPERATION TREATY CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 371

In re Application of:)
Michihiko KATAOKA and Sakayu SHIMIZU)
Based on Int'l Application No.:) Examiner: Not yet assigned
PCT/EP2003/010473)
International Filing Date: 19 September 2003) Art Unit: Not yet assigned
Filed: Herewith)
For: **ENONE REDUCTASE GENE AND**)
MICROBIAL PRODUCTION OF)
LEVODIONE)

New York, NY
March 22, 2005

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please enter the amendment set forth below. Because this Preliminary Amendment is being filed concurrently with the above-identified application, no fee is believed due. If, however, a fee is due, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 02-4467. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Please amend the application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION begin on page 3 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS: none.

REMARKS begin on page 4 of this paper.